



Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



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<b>Weather Forecast</b>		<b>Today</b>	<b>High:46 Low:26</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>High:51 Low:25</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>High:48 Low:25</b>

FRIDAY

# Fort Riley Post



## In Step with Fort Riley

Watch "In Step with Fort Riley" Sundays at 7 a.m. on WIBW, Channel 13 and Monday through Friday on Channel 2 on post at 6:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 6 and 10 p.m.

This week's program includes an update on Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, a desert update from the 19th Public Affairs Detachment at Camp Doha and Operation Desert Partner is revisited.

For more Fort Riley news, visit <http://www.riley.army.mil/OurPost/CurrentNews.asp> on the internet.

January 3, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 46, No. 1

## Year in Review 2002



Post/Doherty

A squad of soldiers from 70th Engineer Battalion runs through a cleared pathway with a Bangalore Torpedo used to breach obstacles during qualification tables March 15.

## Among many changes, post becomes warfighting center

### JANUARY

**Gauntlet: Signal soldiers take to field, prepare for NTC**

Signal soldiers took their first steps toward the National Training Center this week participating in an external evaluation conducted by the 24th Infantry Division. Soldiers from 331st Signal Company deployed to the maneuver areas near the Multi-Purpose Range Complex and were tested in a number of job-oriented and soldier-oriented tasks.

"We use the NTC rules of engagement for everything," said CW02 Brad Dalgarn, Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division. Dalgarn said that communication tests the two signal companies on Fort Riley on how well they set up and protect their sites. The company moved into an area and set up their communications equipment under tactical conditions as observers and the Opposition Force watched.

**Economic numbers show positive impact post has on state**

Fort Riley is the 16th largest city in Kansas and a recent report shows the economic impact of Fort Riley to the state.

According to the latest Economic Impact Report released by the Directorate of Resource Management, Fort Riley's impact in Kansas was \$614,711,430 from Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2001. Since last year's report, Fort Riley has increased the amount of money it puts into the Kansas economy. The total payroll was \$497,441,262. This is an increase of almost \$14,000,000 from the previous year.

**Opposing Force soldiers challenge 1st BCT defenses**

They roll through the path less traveled, creeping until they hit their target, the unlucky Blue Force soldier in their way.

They are the Opposing Force, or OPFOR and their job is to outwit, harass and train the 1st

Brigade Combat Team during Gauntlet so that they are well prepared for the National Training Center deployment and a date with any conflict around the world. "This is 1st Brigade's field problem," said SFC Odell Ford, Company C, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry first sergeant. "They tell us what type of battles they want and we provide the opponent for them."

"We try and replicate current doctrine with succeeding amounts of greater force," said SSgt. Byron Brownfield, master gunner, Co. C, 1st Bn., 41st Inf.

### Devil Brigade digs in

The Devil Brigade dug in awaiting the Opposing Force in the opening battle of Gauntlet training exercises held on Fort Riley this week.

The first exercise required the 1st Brigade Combat Team to perform a defense in sector, rolling into dug in positions to fight the enemy.

"Our job out here his to construct battle positions for 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor," said 1st Lt. John Shaw, Company C, 1st Engi-

neer Battalion. "We dig holes for their tanks and seal them in."

"The engineers provide us with a two-tier fighting position," said SSgt. Harry Carroll, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor. Carroll was told the morning of the battle where he needed to go and to dig in.

**Soldier makes history, carries Olympic torch**

The Olympic spirit should be very special this year.

After the horrific attacks on America in September 2001, the country will probably look to find something to bring the "Spirit of America" back to this country.

One-way to invoke spirit is competition, and the competition will be high when the 2002 Winter Olympic Games makes its journey to Salt Lake City, Utah.

On Jan. 11, the spirit of the Olympics passed through Topeka early in the morning, and the cheers from the spectators were mixed with the sounds of the horn from the train, which carried the torch.

Among the many who ran with the torch was Spec. Aaron Parker,

Battery C, 1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery.

"It's pretty cool to be carrying the Olympic torch," said Parker. "I have never done anything that honorable."

**Mechanics keep things rolling**

While it is the men and machines that receive the glory for winning the battles, it is often the men and women, who work behind the scenes, keeping the machines rolling that save the day.

The mechanics and technicians of the 1st Brigade Combat Team work to keep the unit's equipment ready at all times. "Our basic mission is vehicle recovery, as well as welding and cutting missions," said SSgt. Anthony Rhodes, Company B, 101st Forward Support

Battalion, recovery NCOIC.

**TOC Tactical nerve center for division**

Four trucks stand linked together on the Kansas prairie. They could be confused for any number of things until one looks closer and is greeted by barbed wire and armed guards.

Inside the trucks lies the heart of Gauntlet's battles. It is the 24th Infantry Division Tactical Operations Center, a rolling command post that monitors and reports the battle as it progresses.

"These vehicles serve as the division response cell that is the liaison between Corps-level planners and the units below us," said SFC Michael Dunlap, Headquarters

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Post/Coole

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, place a Bangalore Torpedo during Gauntlet.



Post/Heckler

Kevlars sit atop grounded M16A2 rifles with the identification tags of Sgt. Clifton Decker, Spec. Bobby Newton and PFC Oscar Perez-Jimenez, indirect fire infantrymen, who died tragically in a training accident March 29.



14th PAD Photo

Soldiers from Team 13, Battery B, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, unroll a water hose in preparation for a controlled burn at the Tiller Complex Fire in Tiller, Ore.



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ters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division G-3 Training NCOIC.

"Inside the TOC is all of the staff necessary for field operations to facilitate command and control," he said.

### Winter storm at Fort Riley

After pretty much dodging the winter bullet all season, Fort Riley made up for it Jan. 30 as an ice and snow storm tightened its grip on Kansas, while heavy snow - up to 14 inches - was forecast for the local area.

Winter storm and heavy snow warnings were posted from Tucson, Ariz., to Chicago, Ill., as the major winter storm made its move.

The brunt of the storm shifted into the Northeast by Jan. 31 but snow continued to accumulate on Fort Riley and in surrounding communities.

### February

#### 1st ID Commander visits post

"Ordinary soldiers doing a hero's job," said Maj. Gen. John Craddock, commanding general, 1st Infantry Division (Mech.), as he observed the training of the 1st Brigade Combat Team Jan. 23 during the Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise.

Craddock's visit included a tour of Fort Riley and its training areas, where the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division conducted a Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise.

Craddock toured the battlefield the Devil Brigade would later employ for their final live-fire exercise.

#### Infantry rehearse breaching techniques

At the Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise, Jan. 25, soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team used the Bangalore Torpedo to clear a wire obstacle so they and their Bradley Fighting Vehicles could pass through to complete the mission.

The Bangalore Torpedo is an anti-personnel mine-clearing charge that dates back to World War II.

"When it was first used, the explosion would set off mines or destroy them," said Maj. Dale Cleland, 1st Engineer Battalion operations officer.

#### Devil Brigade ends Gauntlet with bang

The Devil Brigade brought to bear its full force on the final objective in a live-fire battle that swept from the Multi-Purpose Range Complex to Fort Riley's maneuver areas.

The Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise officially ended Gauntlet for the 1st Brigade Combat Team. Gauntlet is a month-long training mission to prepare units for

worldwide deployments.

"This is an overall training for combat," said Maj. Kurt Pinkerton, 1st BCT operations officer. "NTC is a stepping stone in that training."

### Post reinstates Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board

After a dormancy of several years the installation is reinstating the Fort Riley Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board.

The board is a committee appointed by the Commanding General to help preserve the safety, health, morals, welfare, morale and discipline of servicemembers off post, according to Capt. Chris Behan, chief, Administrative Law Division.

If a business establishment presents a safety danger to soldiers, discriminates against soldiers or participates in unethical or unsatisfactory practices, the AFDCB is the Commanding General's tool to help solve the problem and protect soldiers.

#### Reservists prepare for upcoming deployment

Throughout history, Americans have placed their civilian lives on hold to take up the country's call to defend freedom.

Members of the 346th Military Police Co., an Army Reserve unit based out of Hutchinson, Kan., took up the call in January and are training here for deployment.

"We're training for a with a possible deployment to wherever the President needs us," said 1st Lt. Thomas Alber, a platoon leader with the 346th MP Co., 89th Regional Support Command. Alber said that they have been perfecting basic soldier skills such as land navigation and self-defense.

### March

#### Soldiers pack for NTC

Continuing to prepare for this month's trip to the National Training Center, soldiers have begun packing the tools necessary to complete their mission in CONEX.

"A CONEX is a shipping container in which you put anything you need to deploy that cannot fit in your vehicle," said Capt. Scott Gilman, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Combat Team.

For the past three weeks, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade loaded their equipment and belongings into CONEX.

"We start preparing six months out for NTC," said Gilman. "We finalize everything in the two weeks to a month before we actually leave."

#### 1st Brigade soldiers ship duffie bags to desert

A small sea of green bags filled the parking lot outside Craig Fitness Center March 4, as the Devil Brigade conducted a bag drop in

preparation for their National Training Center rotation.

The bag drop sent most of the brigade's soldiers extra clothes and equipment forward so they would be waiting for them when they landed later in the week.

"We pack everything but the kitchen sink in our bags," said 1st Lt. Dwayne Byerly, 331st Signal Company.

Duffie bags carry the essentials, such as additional shirts, uniforms, boots as well as flak vests and other mission related equipment. Soldiers receive a packing list before they depart so they know exactly what to pack.

In addition to the mandatory items, many soldiers pack additional items designed to make the trip more comfortable for them. They bring such odd items like baby wipes, essential junk food, radios and other items to make time go by more smoothly.

"One rotation I saw a guy pack a mini-television set in his bag," said SSGT. Steven Hill, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor.

### Civil Affairs: Civilians challenge soldier presence

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - Sometimes in war the hardest victories are fought not on any military battlefield, but in the hearts and minds of the native population.

At the National Training Center, the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Mech) was put to the test by the people of Mojavia. At stake was their very presence in the country.

Civil Affairs ensures that problems with the local population are kept at a minimum.

"We handle anything that has to do with civilians on the battlefield and may cause any problems with the commander completing his mission," said Staff Sgt. Donald David, 415th Civil Affairs Battalion.

#### Civilians receive first hand look at NTC

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - Civilian members of the Fort Riley community and its surrounding cities visited the National Training Center, March 17-19, as part of Operation Desert Partner.

"Desert Partner is an opportunity for Fort Riley to invite our

community to come to NTC to see soldiers train and experience what a soldiers goes through," said Maj. Todd Livick, Fort Riley Public Affairs Officer.

The civilians that participated were Ed Klimek, Manhattan City mayor, Gary Becker, director of information management, Fort Riley, Ron Bramlage, chief executive officer of Bramlage Investments and Harry Hardy, chief of the civil law division, Fort Riley.

While at NTC, the group got the Army experience of wearing Army issued uniforms, roaming the Mojave Desert in the back of a Humvee and watching soldiers train in simulated battles against each other.

### Secretary of Army announces regions for transformation of post management

Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White announced the next phase in the Army's concept to create a more efficient and effective corporate management structure for Army installations worldwide March 19.

The program, known as Transformation of Installation Management, (formerly called Centralized Installation Management), was announced by the Secretary

in late 2001. Last Tuesday, he announced his approval of the finalized plan for aligning the regions that will oversee installation management.

"Our intent is to streamline headquarters, create more agile and responsive staffs, reduce layers of review and approval and allow commanders to focus on their mission," White said, speaking before a group of Army garrison commanders at a conference in Nashville, Tenn.

### Fort Riley: America's Warfighting Center

#### Army Chief of Staff Gen. Shinseki makes announcement

The Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, and Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, announced March 22 that Fort Riley has been named an American warfighting center.

In comments at Kansas Congressman Jim Ryun's quarterly luncheon, Shinseki said, "Riley remains America's Warfighting Center ... I think it's a great logo for Fort Riley - America's

Warfighting Center, home of the great 24th Infantry Division and those brigades of the 1st Armored and 1st Infantry Divisions."

### April

#### Fort Riley mourns: Three 1st BCT soldiers killed at NTC

A memorial ceremony was held April 2 at Fort Irwin, Calif., and a Memorial Service was held Thursday here for the three soldiers killed in a training accident March 29.

Dead are Sgt. Clifton J. Decklar, Spc. Bobby L. Newton and Pvt.2 Oscar Perez-Jimenez. All were assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor as indirect fire infantrymen. They were deployed from Fort Riley, Kan., to the National Training Center.

Injured in the accident was Pfc. Jamie Weare from Indianapolis, Ind. He also is assigned to HHC, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor. He was treated and released.

The soldiers were killed when a 120mm mortar round exploded during a live-fire exercise while being fired from an M-1064 Mortar Carrier. The soldiers who died

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Post/Bender

A soldier provides overwatch security during the second phase of Gauntlet.

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## FORT RILEY POST

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were inside the track vehicle when the explosion occurred.

### Chaplains take lead in healing process

FORT IRWIN, Ca. - Any time a tragedy strikes soldiers, the Army steps in to fill the emotional breach.

After a training accident claimed three lives during the 1st Brigade Combat Team's National Training Center rotation March 29, members of the brigade unit ministry team went to work helping soldiers cope with their grief.

### Fort Riley conducts memorial service for fallen soldiers

When the seven soldiers fired the first volley of the 21-gun salute, mourners at Morris Hill Chapel cringed. They knew there would be two more volleys fired. However, with each "Ready, Aim, Fire," they tensed in anticipation of the next volley.

Then came the mournful notes of a bugler from outside the chapel. His tribute, echoing into the sanctuary, was all it took to bring tears to the mourners inside.

Soldiers and civilians gathered to pay tribute Thursday to three Fort Riley soldiers killed during a training accident March 29 at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.

Sgt. Clifton J. Deckler, 22, of Shelton, Wash., Spec. Bobby L. Newton, 27 of New Orleans, La., and Pfc. Oscar Perez-Jimenez, 19, of West Covina, Calif., all from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, were killed when a 120mm mortar round exploded

inside their M-1064 Mortar Carrier mortar track during a live fire exercise.

"These three men were great soldiers," said Lt. Col. George Brinegar, to about 300 mourners gathered for the somber 20-minute memorial. Brinegar is the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor commander.

### Fire damages Outdoor Rec Center

A portion of the Fort Riley Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 9011, Rifle Range Road, caught fire Wednesday morning.

The Fort Riley Fire Department was alerted of the fire at 6:41 a.m. by the building's fire alarm system.

When the first unit arrived at 6:48 a.m., firefighters spotted smoke in the southwest portion of the building where the garage and repair shop are located, said Fire Chief John Boyd.

"The building was unoccupied at the time, and there were no injuries to firefighters or other persons," he said.

Approximately 20 percent of the garage suffered fire and heat damage, and the remaining portion of the garage suffered smoke and water damage.

### MPs recognized for mission, success

Fort Riley's 924th Military Police Battalion was recognized for its athletic successes and current security mission in a ceremony last week.

The unit was awarded the Male and Female Athlete of the Year and the Men's and Women's Commander's Sports Trophy for 2001.

As Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz,

commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, presented the plaques and trophies, he congratulated the soldiers and the unit. "These awards are a show of individual excellence and unit excellence," he said.

Capt. Jonathan Pontius, commander, 523rd MP Co., was named Male Athlete of the Year for the second year in a row for his athletic accomplishments. Spec. Sara Mlynec, 523rd MP Co., was named Female Athlete of the Year.

Following the award presentation on April 10, Metz addressed the real-world mission the unit is currently involved in.

### Exercise tests response teams

Fort Riley and local emergency personnel tested their abilities to respond to a tragic event involving mass casualties April 18.

Response teams from Fort Riley and Junction City's Fire Departments, 82nd Medical Company, Irwin Army Community Hospital, Mercy Health Center of Manhattan and Geary Community Hospital were told that as two UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters were performing training maneuvers, an unknown person fired a surface-to-air missile at the lead helicopter.

### May

### Kansas soldier remembered

More than 350 people filled St. Mary's Catholic Church to remember Sgt. Jamie Maugans as a grandson, son and friend, but most importantly, as a hero.

Maugans, a member of the 710th Explosive Ordnance

Detachment out of San Diego, was buried May 9 in his hometown of Derby after being killed in action April 15 while serving with Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He was 27.

### Brigade conducts exercise in Germany

Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division journeyed to Germany to link up with the rest of the division for Warfighter, a corps-level training event conducted by V Corps. Warfighter is designed to test the effectiveness of its division commanders.

The Brigade's combat staff, consisting of 180 soldiers made the trip to Germany for the exercise. In addition to the 1st Armored Division, the exercise also included the 1st Infantry Division, the 35th Division and 256th Brigade.

"We are aligned to fight with the 1st Armored Division and this enables us to understand their procedures," said Col. John Musser, commander 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. "When we got here we fit right in."

### New physical readiness course taught

Many soldiers on Fort Riley do the same thing for physical training every day. Usually, it's push-ups and sit-ups, followed by a two or three-mile run. Fortunately, with the help of Barton County Community College, soldiers on Fort Riley are learning new ways to do PT.

Twelve soldiers were the first to take the new Physical Readiness Leaders' Training Course offered on Fort Riley by Barton from May 13-17.

### Streamer awarded for full year without DUI

Headquarters and Headquarters

Company 2nd Battalion 34th Armor received a new streamer to their guidon for a full year with-

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Post/Shepherd

Cpl. Alysa Smith, Company C, 101st Forward Support Battalion, grimaces with pain as she leads her litter team through a water obstacle during training week for the Expert Field Medical Badge.

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## Briefs

### Leave Donation

Several Fort Riley employees are experiencing a personal or a family medical emergency and are facing a period of more than 24 hours of Leave Without Pay. Due to the Privacy Act, we are unable to expand on specific medical reasons; however, we can tell you that the following individuals have requested that their names be released in order that they may receive donated leave: Anna Ostrowski, DRM - CPACLT0309; Lori Domina, G1 - CPACLT0306; Gary Barriek, G3 - CPACLT0220; Jeanne Noss, Hq, Garrison - CPACLT0301; Berry L. Morton, MEDDAC - CPACLT0308; Marretta Lewis, MEDDAC - CPACLT0224; Richard Price, PAO - CPACLT0310; Scott Melcher, PW - CPACLT0302; Don Webb, PW - CPACLT0305; Niel Sittion, SJA - CPACLT0214; Mozelle Corbin, SWCPOC - CPACLT0304; James, SWCPOC - CPACLT0307; and CeCelia Liggett, 5th Army, 75th - CPACLT0311.

To donate annual leave to any of the individuals listed above, please complete OPM Form 630A. This form is located on the CPAC Intranet web site under "Forms" or at <http://www.opm.gov/forms/html/opm.asp>. Completed forms should be forwarded to: Sonja Elzy, CPAC. For additional information on leave donation procedures, please contact your Activity's Administrative POC.

### National Radon Action Month

Radon is a health risk facing millions of Americans. January has been designated by the U.S. EPA as National Radon Action Month. Like National Radon Action Week, the focus of NRAM is to promote awareness about testing for and mitigation of indoor radon gas with various events and outreach campaigns.

Radon testing is done on on-post housing by the Fort Riley, Directorate of Environment and Safety and Army Family Housing, Radon Program. If you live off post, you can purchase radon test kits for \$7, plus shipping and handling fees, from the Riley County Health Department, 785-776-4779, 2030 Tecumseh Rd., Manhattan, KS. Contact the DES for any questions that you may have about radon at 785-239-8604.

### Children, Stress and Deployment

Learn to recognize the signs of stress in your child and what you can do help you and your child cope. A class will be held today, 4 - 5 p.m. at Child and Youth Services, building 6620, Parents Advisory Council. The class is provided by the Fort Riley Family Advocacy Program and is free. Call 239-9435 for more information.

### Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop is located in building 267, Stuart Ave, and is close until Tuesday.

### The Shoppe

Come and visit The Shoppe for any of your shopping needs. The Shoppe has had a very successful holiday season and is closed for the holidays until Tuesday. The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave. Call 785-239-2783, for more information.

### Volunteers needed

The Historical Board is recruiting docents for the Custer House and Fort Riley tours. There will be a training session Jan. 17, 2003, 9:30 a.m. - noon, at the Cavalry Museum. Contact Jane Plessli, 717-3285, to register for the training.

### Support Group

The Pregnancy Loss and Infant Death Support Group meets monthly, every third Thursday, 6 p.m., at Kapaun Chapel. The next meeting will be held Dec. 19, 6 p.m. Parents who have experienced miscarriage and infant death are invited to come. Call Chaplain Mike Wood, 239-7872, for more information.

### Instructor Needed

The Sports/Fitness Department is looking for certified, experienced and highly energetic aerobic instructors. Call 239-2813 for additional information.

### ACAP Job Fair

The Army Career and Alumni Program is sponsoring a Job Fair Jan. 31, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., in the ACAP Center in building 210, room 7, Custer Avenue on Main Post. There will be local, national and international employers present to talk with and interview prospective employees. A list of employers invited to this Job Fair will be posted in the ACAP Center. Watch for updated list. To prepare for the Job Fair you should, research the companies that you would like to talk to, have your resumes ready (if you have not finished your resume, come anyway, you can always send your resume later), come dressed appropriately for the interview and look and be sharp. Visit or call the ACAP Center, 239-2278/2248, for more information.

### AFTB Training

Army Family Team Building training scheduled for winter includes:  
Advanced AFTB on Wednesday. This class will include 2.02.5 - Management Skills: Crisis and Coping and 2.03.1 - Adapting to Change. Another Advanced

AFTB class will be held Jan. 22, and will include Intermediate Problem Solving and Time Management.

Information on other AFTB classes can be found at the Family Readiness Center, building 7264. Classes will be held at the FRC from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call 239-9435 for more information or to reserve a spot in any and all classes. Reservations are not necessary, but are preferred.

Do you know where to go for benefits? Do you know your options after retirement? Do you know the LES has changed?

Do you know answers for new dependents who have questions?

Do you know what the Army expects of you? Army Family Team Building can show you all the benefits and tools available to you as a military family member. Whether you've been with the Army for six months or six years, AFTB can help.

WHO: Soldiers, Spouses, Family members and Civilians  
WHAT: Free AFTB Level One Classes WHEN: Two Fridays per month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Class dates are Jan. 10 and 24, Feb. 7 and 21 and March 7 and 21 at the Armed Services YMCA, 111 East 16th St., Junction City.

Register or just find out more information by calling the AFTB office at 239-9435. Parents needing FREE childcare will be taken on a first to register, first served basis, so you must pre-register for FREE childcare by calling 239-1831 no later than one week prior to the class.

### Soldier Show Tryouts

The All Army Soldier Show is currently seeking applicants for the upcoming 2003 tour. Anyone interested in performing, being a technician or driving for the Soldier Show must submit an application packet to the Army Entertainment Division no later than Jan. 10. The packet requires a sig-

nificant amount of time to complete, so please start early. For further information on application submission call 239-8147 or 239-9354.

### Men's Bible Study

Join the Faithful Men's Bible Study as they discuss "Spiritual Leadership Principles" on Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 a.m., at Kapaun Chapel. For more information contact Don Ericson, director of religious education, 239-9313.

### Red Cross Needs Volunteers

The Fort Riley Chapter of the American Red Cross needs new volunteers for Fort Riley. If you are interested, there are many areas open, both at Irwin Army Community Hospital and elsewhere. Reimbursement for childcare is available. Training is now done one-on-one in the Red Cross office at the Soldier and Family Support Center. Call Debbi Freeman or Kelly Sutton, 239-1887, for more information.

### Mail training

Unit Mailroom Service Training will be conducted today, Wednesday and Jan. 22, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., building 319, CPAC. Official Mail Training will be conducted on Jan. 10 and Feb. 7, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., building 319, CPAC. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 to enroll.

### March planned

The Division Equal Opportunity Office will sponsor a commemoration march in honor of the late Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 15, at Morris Hill Chapel from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The theme for this year is "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On, Not A Day Off!!!" The program is open to all soldiers, their families, civilian

employees and the surrounding communities. For more information please contact Fort Riley EO Office at 239-2928.

### Special Forces

A Special Forces recruiter will be visiting Fort Riley Monday through Friday of next week. Briefings will be held at the post re-up building, building 7626, at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily. An additional briefing will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. The PT test will be conducted at Long track Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 7 a.m., that week as well. Candidates will wear BDUs and running shoes for the PT test. For more information, call (719) 510-4493.

### Winter Luau

A Winter Luau will be held at Eyster Indoor Pool, building 6940, Custer Hill, Jan. 24, 2003, 8 - 10 p.m. There will be Hawaiian drinks snacks, music and lots of games and prizes.

Admission will be \$1. For more information, call 239-9441.

### Standards of Conduct

Only duly appointed contracting officers can obligate the government contractually. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in an "unauthorized commitment" - an agreement that is not binding solely because the government representative who made it lacked the authority to enter into that agreement on behalf of the Government. Unauthorized commitments must be investigated and the perpetrators are subject to adverse actions. Ordering officers may, by virtue of their written appointment, obligate the Government up to their designated approval limits. For additional information, contact the Directorate of Contracting at 239-0468.



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out an incidence of driving under the influence of alcohol.

Brig. Gen. David Gross, the assistant division commander for maneuver, 24th Infantry Division, presented the new streamer during a ceremony at the company motor pool on May 21.

### Concert kicks off Trooper Week, Memorial Day weekend

Bands Kansas and Styx, Tony Schumacher, the Army race car driver, comedian A. J. Jamal and singer Pat Green attracted nearly 6,000 people out to the Army Moral, Welfare and Recreation concert tour at Marshall Army Airfield this Monday.

This was the first concert on the MWR tour this year. The tour is tentatively scheduled to go to 10 posts across the nation and last until Aug. 24.

All of the acts were pleased to be performing for the Army and supporting the United States on Memorial Day.

"We would respectfully like to thank all the men and women in uniform who work so diligently to serve and protect us," said Robby Steinhardt, Kansas lead singer.

### June

#### Open House draws thousands to historic Fort Riley

"It was a long way to get here," said Jeremy Vanbergen, 9, of St. Louis, Mo., as he sat in a Humvee on Cavalry Parade Field during the Fort Riley Open House on Saturday.

Vanbergen's family drove in just for the event and picked up several cousins along the way, he said. His words can also be used to describe the tremendous effort that went into making the event possible.

"They have done splendid in putting this whole thing together," said Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley. "You start with a staff that gets the general plan, and you issue the tasks to the units."

According to Brad Carlton, G-3 Operations, the planning began in early January and work continued until the full rehearsal May 31. The amount of effort people put into making the event a success was enormous he said.

#### Families enjoy Open House

The Open House on Fort Riley Saturday featured live music, carnival rides, obstacle courses, exhibits, food, tank simulators and more. The weather could not have been better, with clear blue skies and Kansas' famous winds blowing just right to keep everyone cool. It was definitely the perfect day for a family outing.

"I've been hearing about it, and my sons have been begging me, 'We gotta go check it out,'" said Lakisha Cusack, wife of Sgt. Teflon Cusack. She brought her two sons, her nephew and her friend's daughter to the event.

#### Children's booth popular at Expo Center

Crayons, paper plates, yarn and glue were the highlights of the Child and Youth Services booth in the Expo Center at King Field House during the Open House.

"It takes kids two to five minutes to draw their pictures on a paper plate, then thread a strand of

colored yard through the hole to make a hanging picture," said Jill O'Sullivan, Director of Fort Riley's Youth Services. "A lot of kids came back more than once to make things for their moms and dads, which was kind of nice," she said.

#### Soldiers past, present, future part of post extravaganza

Approximately 20,000 people attended the second Fort Riley Open House on Saturday. Not only did these people get to see a petting zoo, bands and obstacle courses, they got to see Fort Riley's history from the past, present and future.

The story of the Army soldier started almost 227 years ago. A few soldiers stood up to the King of England and became known as rebels who fought to win the country's independence.

On display at the Open House was Battery D, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery. Also called Hamilton's Own, the unit is the oldest in the U.S. Army, founded in March 1776. Six soldiers stood by a 6-pound Revolutionary War cannon to explain the unit's history and legacy. Dressed in colonial uniforms, Spc. Bryan Engel, a field artilleryman, talked about Battery D.

#### Ceremony opens museum

Fort Riley is now home to the U.S. Constabulary Forces Museum after a ribbon cutting ceremony on the building during Saturday's Open House events.

This project is the result of efforts by the U.S. Constabulary Forces Society, who first presented the idea to congress 10 years ago.

The U.S. Constabulary was a unique unit," said chairman Bill McKale. "There was never a unit like it before, and there has never been a unit like it since. The U.S. Constabulary was a unique unit designed for the occupation of Germany."

"Today marks the efforts of several groups of individuals to recognize a group of soldiers who have seemingly slipped through the pages of history," he said. "Ten years ago Fort Riley was selected to collect, preserve and maintain the culture of the U.S. Constabulary Forces."

#### Reservists receive help preparing for deployment

In the history of the United States, men have laid down the vestiges of their jobs and crafts at a moment's notice for the uniform of their country.

Members of the 329th Quartermaster Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Missouri who is tasked with providing logistical support to a deployed task force in southern Asia and managing their supplies, have carried on that tradition, leaving their careers and families for a future deployment.

"We found out in mid-May that we would be mobilizing on May 28," said Maj. Russell McWaters, 329th Quartermaster Bn. executive officer.

The notification left the unit with about two weeks to put all of their affairs in order before they came to Fort Riley. One of the major concerns for many citizen soldiers is whether their job will be waiting for them when they return home.



Members of the 1st BCT Quick Response Force stand prepared to respond to a protest.

#### Medics give all for field badge

Sweat, dirt and blood cake the four medics carrying a litter patient with a horrendous stomach injury. They are two miles into hostile territory, and they're trying to get themselves and their patient out alive. The lead medic yells commands as bullets whiz by and smoke fills their eyes. They come to a deep stream in the middle of their path. Without hesitation, they jump in, raising the litter high above their head. With bravery and a lot of teamwork, they get the injured soldier out of enemy territory and into a field hospital where they save his life.

This is just one scenario of many that's played out during the Expert Field Medical Badge Competition, but it's this type of realistic testing that candidates have to go through in order to get this coveted award.

#### FORSCOM evaluates Connelly Competition

Fort Riley Food Services recently participated in an evaluation by the Forces Command Food Advisor for a chance to represent FORSCOM in the Philip A. Connelly Award Competition.

"This is the Super Bowl of food service," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Cornelius Williams, FORSCOM food advisor. "The Connelly award is the highest food service award in the Army."

Three dining facilities were evaluated: the Main Post dining facility, 1st Brigade Combat Team's "Devil's Den" and 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor's dining facility.

#### Githerman honored at retirement

A retirement ceremony in

honor of Col. Larry Githerman, assistant division commander for support for the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley, was held on Ware Parade Field June 5.

The ceremony opened with the firing of "Old Thunder," a replica of a Revolutionary War era cannon, fired by Battery D, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment.

#### Professional football comes to Junction City

You won't find J.J. Adolphus at home on weekends knitting booties for her grandchild. Not this 41-year-old grandmother - she's too busy working out, sprinting 10 yards at a time and doing crunches. She is preparing for the opening game of the Junction City Cavalry, a full contact professional football team in the National Women's Football League's newest division.

The team is part of the 2-year-old National Women's Football League, which boasts 22 franchises nationwide. The Cavalry is a new team in the Midwest division, which begins play next spring.

#### MEDDAC command changes hands

The first woman in the history of Irwin Army Community Hospital stepped into the military boots of hospital commander on June 18. Col. Julie Martin assumed command of IACH from the outgoing hospital commander, Col. Arthur Wallace, at a change of command ceremony held at Cavalry Parade Field.

Martin remarked at the ceremony that it is unique for a Medical Service Corps officer to serve as a hospital commander. This was made possible at IACH because of recent changes to mil-

itary personnel regulations. The changes make it possible for officers in the Medical Service Corps or the Army Nurse Corps to be considered for command positions. Before the change, only medical doctors were appointed to medical command positions, she said.

#### Brigade dining facility dedicated

On the Army's birthday, June 14, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized) Consolidated Dining Facility, the Devil's Den, was posthumously named for Daniel Richmond Edwards. All four of Edwards' children attended the dedication ceremony and helped unveil the dedication plaque.

"Today we celebrate the Army's 227th birthday, and we honor this great soldier and American," said Col. James Milano, commander, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. "We also celebrate this soldiers extraordinary heroism."

#### Eisenhower remembered on Flag Day

The Army celebrated its 227th birthday on June 14. Part of the festivities was honoring past Chiefs of Staff that are no longer alive with wreath laying ceremonies. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was honored at his tomb in the Place of Meditation at the Eisenhower Center in Abilene, Kansas. Eisenhower is one of only two chiefs not buried at Arlington Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

#### Gold assumes command of 3rd BCT

The 3rd Brigade Combat Team changed command Monday and in doing so, began a new chapter in the history of the 1st Armored Division and 24th Infantry Division.

Col. John Musser II, passed the brigade colors to incoming commander Col. Russell Gold under blue skies and a warm breeze as hundreds of friends, family and well wishers looked on.

#### Training exercise tests airlifting skills

The largest aviation training exercise ever to take place on Fort Riley peaked last weekend when 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment completed more than 80 sling load missions.

Virtually flying non-stop for more than 24 hours, the aviators in their CH-47 helicopters, supported the 2nd Brigade, 34th Infantry Division, Iowa Army National Guard, by airlifting infantry and artillery units all over the Fort Riley maneuver area.

"This exercise is significant for us because it's the first time in memory that we've had our battalion together to maneuver," said 1st Lt. Charlie Wilson, S-1, 5th Bn., 159th Avn. Regt.

#### Connor takes command of 1st BCT

Col. James Milano bid farewell to the 1st Brigade Combat Team in a change of command ceremony held Tuesday on Cavalry Parade Field.

Col. Arthur Connor took over as commander of the famed Devil Brigade. Milano had spent two years as the commander of the 1st BCT.

### July

#### Independence celebrated

Fort Riley and Junction City celebrated the nation's birthday with the Sundown Salute, right in heart of America.

It began with the Coors 10 kilometer Freedom Run at 7:30 a.m., July 4, and ended with a six hour concert on July 5, that ended at midnight.

Fort Riley had a strong presence in the 10 kilometer run in the Army categories of the race. Lt. Col. David Boslego, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division, won first place in the men's division, while the women of 596th Signal Company placed first in the overall women's competition. The 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, was the battalion champions. The 596th Signal Company, 2nd Platoon, won first place in the platoon category.

#### Thousands en route to Fort Riley

Thousands of reservists and national guardsmen from 24 states are en route to Fort Riley to train at America's Warfighting Center during Operation Hickory Sting.

The month-long operation is a training exercise that will prepare the 30th Enhanced Separate Brigade, North Carolina Army National Guard, for their National Training Center rotation in the summer of 2003.

#### Hickory Sting prepares 30th eSB soldiers for NTC

Camp Funston, located on the east side of Fort Riley near Ogden, has turned back into a training area after its establishment 85 years ago this month.

Funston, originally built as a cantonment for WWI soldiers, is being used now for Operation Hickory Sting. Fort Riley's mission rehearsal exercise for the

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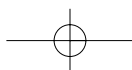
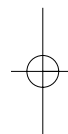
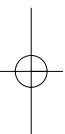
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30th Enhanced Separate Brigade, North Carolina Army National Guard.  
Thousands of soldiers, equipment and logistical supplies are now in place, turning the once sparse camp into a fully functional temporary town or Rotational Unit Bivouac Area.

**Operation Hickory Sting underway**

"Live with, train with, fight with the Army," are words that the 118th Air Support Operations Squadron lives by. The Air Force unit out of North Carolina deployed to Fort Riley July 21 to train with the Army's 30th Enhanced Separate Brigade during Operation Hickory Sting.  
The 118th ASOS will control A-10 fighters, designed for close air support of ground forces, and other Air Force aircraft for the joint services exercise.

**Hamilton's Own prepared for firefight**

Approximately 550 soldiers from Fort Riley's 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, deployed Monday to assist with the wildland fires in Oregon as part of Operation Warm Lake.  
The fire began with a lightning strike just outside Unity, Ore., in the Monument Wilderness on July 12.  
As of Sunday, it was only 30 percent contained according to the National Interagency Fire Center's website, and it was not currently a threat to the city of Unity or any outlying residences. No evacuations or advisories had been issued.  
The soldiers leaving Fort Riley were issued their gear and received instructional classes by the NIFC.

**Reserve component changes command**

A few dozen soldiers gathered on Ware Parade Field July 26 to represent the 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support) and to welcome Col. Gasper Gulotta as he took command of the brigade from Col. Robert Townsend.  
The unit is a multi-component brigade consisting of 700 reserve and active duty soldiers. It's units, located throughout the Midwest, include the 1st Battalion, 291st Aviation Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas; 2nd Bn., 291st Av. Reg., Fort Riley; 3rd Bn., 382nd Logistics Support Reg., Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; 1st Bn., 383rd Reg., Des Moines, Iowa; 2nd Bn., 383rd Reg., Fort Leavenworth, Kan. and 3rd Bn., 383rd Reg., St.

**New workweek schedule gives soldiers more predictable hours**

The 70th Engineer Battalion, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery Regiment and the 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance), have been piloting a new workweek schedule since April.  
There are several facets to the intent of the program. One facet reflects the intent to maximize efficiency and effectiveness during the morning hours. Another facet reflects the intent to enhance predictability in the daily schedules of soldiers and their families by specifying the start and end of the workday.

**August Troops begin redeployment**

With temperatures reaching into the hundreds and rain scarce, soldiers from the 206th Corps Support Battalion from Brooklyn, N.Y., are sweating it out at Camp Funston, getting all the vehicles loaded on rail cars for the long trip home after Operation Hickory Sting.  
The 35-member detachment has been working with soldiers from several different states to get this enormous mission accomplished on time and without injury.

**Fort Riley pays tribute to Wojdakowski**

Fort Riley troops, civilians and family members paid tribute to Brig. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski, assistant division commander (Forward), 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and deputy commanding general (South), First U.S. Army, for two years of outstanding service during a ceremony held Aug. 1.  
Wojdakowski travels to V Corps, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany, where he will serve as deputy commanding general. Brig. Gen. Jay Hood, currently the assistant chief of staff, Operations KFOR (Main), Film City, Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, will assume Wojdakowski's duties.

**Local troops relocate to second fire**

Military and civilian firefighters, including Fort Riley's 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, helped contain the Monument Fire near Unity, Ore., and are now refocusing their efforts on a new blaze within the state, the Tiller Complex Fire.

The forest fire, located on the Tiller Ranger District and in the Rogue-Umpqua Divide Wilderness Area, east of Tiller, Ore., was caused by a massive lightning storm on July 12, which ignited 116 individual fires.

**Soldiers returning from fires**

Task Force Destroyer soldiers are scheduled to return Aug. 16 from their deployment to Oregon. During their stint at the Tiller Complex Fire in Tiller, Ore., soldiers worked hard to bring water to the fire front.  
Soldiers from Battery B, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, laid 5,000 feet of fire hose in preparation for a burn out to help control the Tiller Complex Fire.

**West Nile spreads into Kansas**

In recent weeks, new human cases of West Nile virus have been found in several new states, including Kansas where an unvaccinated horse in Cowley County became sick and died. Testing at Kansas State University spotted the disease. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that, as of Aug. 12, state health departments have released information on more than 140 cases of West Nile virus related human illness this year, including eight deaths.

**Simpson new garrison commander**

Soldiers and civilians of Fort Riley said good-bye to the garrison commander and welcomed a new one in a change of command ceremony held last Friday on Ware Parade Field.  
Col. Philip T. Pope passed the garrison colors to Col. John A. Simpson Jr., symbolizing the start of Simpson's tenure as the garrison commander. After the passing of the colors, Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, commander, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley, thanked Pope for a job well done.

**Hickory Sting exercise successfully completed**

Operation Hickory Sting came to a close last week as hundreds of vehicles and tanks were loaded onto rail cars at Camp Funston and shipped home to several different states. This ended the month long exercise on Fort Riley.  
Hickory Sting was designed as a preparatory training rehearsal for the 30th Enhanced Separate Brigade for their scheduled National Training Center at Fort



**Pvt. Christopher Selmek, 19th Public Affairs Detachment, cools down after he finished the Cross Country run event during Trooper Week. Water and a crowd greeted the runners as they crossed the finish line.**

Irwin, Calif., rotation during the summer of 2003.

and Seventh Army, Germany.

**Ceremony welcomes new leadership to post**

Fort Riley officially welcomed Col. (P) Frank Helmick, the new assistant division commander for maneuver, and Col. Thomas Luebker, the new assistant division commander for support, during a ceremony on Ware Parade Field Tuesday.  
During his address to the audience, Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley explained how the turnover of leaders is positive for Fort Riley and how excited he is about the team of leaders here now.

**New leadership welcomed at ceremony**

The Welcoming Ceremony in honor of Brig. Gen. Jay Hood, assistant division commander (Forward), 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley, took place Aug. 23 on Ware Parade Field.  
As the new assistant division commander, Hood is replacing Brig. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski, now the deputy commanding general, V Corps, U.S. Army Europe

**September West Nile found on post**

A positive case of West Nile Virus has been found on post. A black crow, found near building 8100 on Custer Hill, was the carrier of the virus.  
"I was directly called by a Fort Riley employee about a live crow on the ground," said Sgt. Carrie Fox, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Veterinary Treatment Facility at Fort Riley.  
Fox said that she captured the crow and on the drive back to Fort Riley Veterinary Services the bird died.

"The crow had no broken bones or noticeable injuries," Fox said, "and if there are any neurological symptoms, we send it out for testing." Fox said she sent the dead bird via Federal Express to the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, Wis., for tests.  
A positive West Nile Virus lab result was reported by the National Wildlife Health Center Aug. 30, according to Emi Saito, WNV surveillance coordinator for the NWHC.

**100th tank engine rebuild completed**

The Advanced Turbine Engine

Army Maintenance team, otherwise known as the ATEAM, recently celebrated the rebuilding of their 100th tank engine on Sept. 12.

"Every organization needs a milestone," said Col. Everett Weaver, surface maintenance manager for Kansas Army National Guard, Headquarters State Area Command. "Three years ago no one thought we could rebuild one engine, now we've rebuilt 100 of them."

**82nd Medical Company home from overseas mission**

Soldiers from the 82nd Medical Company returned last week from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, where they supported soldiers and airmen with 24-hour aeromedical evacuation services.  
"Our mission was to provide medical evacuation and force protection around the area to make sure soldiers and airmen were in a safe environment," said Capt. Brian Stogdill, 82nd Med. Co.  
The soldiers arrived at Forbes Air Field in Topeka on C-5 Galaxy aircraft. Along with them came four UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters.

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**Local Patriot Day**  
**events honor fallen**  
**Americans, heroes**

A prayer breakfast was held Sept. 11 at Fort Riley's Outdoor Chapel in remembrance of the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

After breakfast was served, several unit commanders read Bible scriptures and Chap. (Capt.) Grady Gentry, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, sang "America, Keep Holding To God's Hand."

Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, then spoke about his experience at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001.

"That Tuesday was crystal clear. You could see all those monuments, and it was another reminder of our great nation," said Metz.

**Focus on Fort Riley**  
**families**

As the weather begins to become cooler and thoughts of autumn come to mind, so approaches Fort Riley's Fall Open House and Apple Day.

This open house is more focused on the Fort Riley community according to Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley.

"With the first one, I wanted to display Fort Riley to the public," said Metz. "This time I want to focus on the people who live at Fort Riley, so they can see how wonderful it is after the summer changeovers of all the leaders. We're focusing inward instead of outward."

**Apple Day, Open**  
**House:**

**Visitors, families enjoy**  
**fall festivities**

As summer turns to fall, people put away their baby swimming pools and sprinklers and pull out rakes and leaf blowers.

To add to the fall tradition, Fort Riley held an Open House and Apple Day celebration. For the last several years, in mid-September, people have enjoyed the smell of apple pies. These apple pies are the basis of a special day for the post, as a total of 1,000 were made for the Open House.

Over 8,000 people came to Fort Riley for the Fall Open House and Apple Day celebration Saturday to see both the historic and present aspects of the post. The day observed the 150th year-long anniversary of Fort Riley and helped keep with the theme, "Where the Past Meets the Present."

**Reenactors teach,**  
**entertain**

In keeping with the theme of the Fall Open House and Apple Day, "When the Past Meets the Present," a variety of reenactors added historic flavor to the day's activities, held on Cavalry Parade Field Sept. 28.

Reenactors ranged from a log hewer who had chips flying through the air, to a mountain man who had stew simmering over a campfire. A singing cowboy shared Kansas and Fort Riley history through song while a farmer reminisced about "how it was done back in the old days."

**Obstacle Course,**  
**Weapons Firing Range**  
**favorites with kids**

Children had the opportunity to experience some of the aspects of life as a soldier last weekend at Fort Riley's Fall Open House and Apple Day.

Two of the most popular activities children participated in were the Obstacle Course at Tuttle Park and the Weapons Firing Range located at Sturgis Field.

The Obstacle Course, which was set up by 70th Engineers, required a lot of work to put

together, according to Spec. Dallas Smith, Company A, 70th Engineers.

**24th Infantry Division**  
**Association reunion**  
**group visits post**

The 24th Infantry Division Association toured Fort Riley Sept. 19 as part of its four-day annual reunion.

"The reunion is important because it keeps [veterans] together," said Billy Johnson, president, 24th Infantry Division Association. "We've been through the same thing. We share the same feelings."

**October**

**Maj. Gen. Metz**  
**receives new**  
**assignment**

Fort Riley's Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, has assumed a temporary position as the Chief of Staff for U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force, Fla.

CENTCOM's mission is to shape the Central Region for the 21st Century, to facilitate integration and to protect America and its allies' interests, through warfighting, engagement and development.

**Fort Riley changes**  
**work schedule**

Fort Riley went to a new work schedule this week, which, according to Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, commander 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, will make the post run smoother.

The biggest change in the schedule is that physical training has moved from 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"I think that this is a good change," said Spec. Richard Gerzemehle, 70th Engineer Battalion. "We've been doing this for a while now and now that it's about to be winter time, it will be warmer in the afternoon, which will make for better PT."

**OPFOR Challenge**  
**tests reserve units**

The 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support) will hold their annual Opposing Forces Challenge Nov. 1, 2 and 3 to test the skills of the brigade's OPFOR teams.

"The OPFOR challenge is a team building competition that challenges reserve soldiers to complete critical tasks needed to master their job," said Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Elder, 3rd Bde., 75th Div.

"It is a two and a half day event conducted under field conditions that tax the soldiers' field craft skills," said Elder.

**MPs return from**  
**protecting Pentagon**

The 300th Military Police Company was welcomed home Sept. 30 from Washington, D.C., where they took part in Operation Noble Eagle.

The unit deployed in April, seven months after the attack that destroyed part of the Pentagon.

The primary mission of the company was to provide security and defense for the Pentagon. Working with the Defense Protective Service, the Secret Service and the Criminal Investigation Detachment, the unit conducted daily patrols and was responsible for the outer perimeter of the Pentagon security plan.

**Massive firepower**  
**displayed at Udaire**

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment (Mechanized), 1st Bn., 64th Armor Regiment, 2nd Bn., 69th Armor Rgt. and 1st Bn., 15th Field Artillery Rgt. gathered together for a massive display of firepower, Aug. 21 at Udaire Range.



**A Fort Riley firefighter removes a patient from a UH-60 Blackhawk during a mass casualty exercise held yesterday. The simulated terrorist attack exercise took place on Marshall Army Air Field and tested the post's emergency support systems.**

The combat team that participated in the live fire consisted of M2A2 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks, AH64 Apache helicopters, M109A6 Paladins, M121 120mm Mortar Systems, Multiple Launch Rocket Systems and engineer equipment.

"It's a great realistic training event," said Sgt. 1st Class Robert Ward, Company B, 1st Bn., 64th Armor Rgt. "It's good to work in coordination with all the different elements."

**Team Bravo prepares**  
**for JRTC maneuvers**

The soldiers of Team Bravo, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor will depart for the Joint Readiness Training Center in Fort Polk, La., on Oct. 28 to train with 3rd Brigade, 101st Air Assault, from Fort Campbell, Ky. Team Bravo is comprised of soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, and 101st Forward Support Battalion.

**ADA troops assess**  
**skills in North Dakota**

Soldiers of Battery C, 4th Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery, recently traveled to Grand Forks, N.D., in order to train on a specialized Stinger missile simulator. Troops also performed various other training missions while in the area.

"We have training that we must complete twice a year for Table VII Certification," said Cpt. Dennis Smith, commander, Btry. C, 4th Bn., 3rd ADA. "Table VIII

**Certification is training required**  
**by the Army on major weapons**  
**systems. ADA's 14S (Stinger**  
**Man-Portable Air Defense Sys-**  
**tem) soldiers have to certify on**  
**Stinger missiles and 14R**  
**(Bradley/Stinger Crewman) sol-**  
**diers have to certify on Stingers**  
**and Bradley Stinger Fighting**  
**Vehicles every year.**

**Anthrax vaccinations**  
**reintroduced**

The Vice Chief of Staff of the Army has approved the Army's Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program. Under this program, vaccination of troops has resumed, including troops on Fort Riley.

Under the revamped program, only troops assigned or deploying to designated higher threat areas for greater than 15 days will be vaccinated.

**President signs Iraq**  
**resolution**

President George W. Bush signed a resolution Wednesday morning approving the use of military force against the regime in Iraq. However, he has not ordered the use of force as of yet.

"I hope the use of force will not become necessary. Yet, confronting the threat posed by Iraq is necessary, by whatever means that requires. Either the Iraqi regime will give up its weapons of mass destruction, or, for the sake of peace, the United States will lead a global coalition to disarm that regime," said Bush.

the best Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers advisor Army wide for 2002.

Col. John Simpson, garrison commander, Fort Riley, presided over the ceremony and presented Mayes with the award.

"The Felteus Edwards award for MWR (Moral, Welfare and Recreation) excellence is given to one MWR professional, Army wide, each year," Simpson said in his remarks. The award is given on a competitive basis, with criteria ranging from community service to planning recreational programs, he said.

**Fort Riley prepares**  
**more than 1,000**  
**soldiers for Balkans**

For the second time in less than six months, more than 1,000 National Guard soldiers will come to Fort Riley to train-up for their next mission.

Last July, thousands came to support the North Carolina National Guard for Operation Hickory Sting, a Mission Rehearsal Exercise for the National Training Center.

This fall, approximately 1,500 soldiers with the 35th Infantry Division will begin arriving on Fort Riley to train for a deployment to the Balkans, "Stabilization Force 15."

**Soldiers welcomed**  
**home after deployment**

Dozens of wives, husbands, children and parents gathered in Hangar 817 this past week to welcome their troops home from a six-month deployment in Kuwait.

On Oct. 26, Lorie Beckman and Bill Prince drove nearly 300 miles from Sioux City, Iowa, to meet their son, Spec. Dustin Beckman, and his friends, Spec. Jeremiah Enfield and Spec. Karl Weidmann, all with Scout Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry.

"We drove down last night to make sure he had somebody here when he got back," said Prince.

**596th Sig. Co. hones**  
**skills during field**  
**training exercise**

Soldiers from the 596th Signal Company held a Field Training Exercise Oct. 21-24 to hone their skills for the Gauntlet train-up, which is for a future deployment to the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.

The FTX tested the soldiers' skills by presenting them with challenges, which are set-up through computer-generated simulations of enemy movement on the battlefield.

**November**

**Teams compete for**  
**bragging rights**

Reserve soldiers from three states came to Fort Riley to compete in the 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support) annual Opposing Forces Challenge last weekend.

They came from 1st Battalion,

*Continued on Page 10*

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383rd Regiment, from Des Moines, Iowa, 2nd Battalion 383rd Regiment from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and 3rd Battalion, 383rd Regiment from St. Louis, Mo.

The team from Iowa won the challenge for the second year in a row.

### Gauntlet exercise brings brigade together

The 3rd Brigade, 1st Armor Division, is holding its Gauntlet Field Training Exercise Nov. 10 - 26. Gauntlet is a train-up for the unit's upcoming National Training Center rotation or any contingency deployment.

The brigade units will build on their field training exercises, which they performed during the past six months, to sharpen their skills as warfighters and increase their combat effectiveness, said Maj. Joel K. Tyler, operations officer, 3rd Bde., 1st Arm. Div.

### National Guard soldiers train at America's Warfighting Center

Soldiers from 35th Infantry Division (Mechanized), a National Guard Unit Headquartered in Fort Leavenworth, Kan., began Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training Nov. 11, as part of Stabilization Force 13.

"The TSIRT training is designed around the combatant commander's desires for specific individual training for the soldiers who are about to deploy to the Balkans," said Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Elder, command sergeant major, 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support).

The soldiers receive four days of training in nine areas. "The first day they have classroom instructions. Then, they go into hands on training. And the last day they go into execution," said Master Sgt. Joseph Tomlinson, noncommissioned officer in charge of TSIRT.

### DoD solves Common Access Card fielding issue, setbacks

The military's Common Access Card program continues to improve with the solving of a number of technical problems.

The CAC, a credit-card-size identification card, was originally slated to be issued to all service members, Department of Defense civilians and contractor personnel by Oct. 1, according to officials at U.S. Army Personnel Command in Alexandria, Va. That deadline was extended to Oct. 1, 2003,

because of technical difficulties encountered during the fielding process.

Fort Riley has issued about 3500 cards so far, according to Chief Warrant Officer James E. Fiedler, chief, 1st Personnel Services Battalion, Military Personnel Operations. "This number includes the folks who have been mobilizing through Fort Riley, not just Fort Riley soldiers." This would include the 35th Infantry Division soldiers preparing to deploy to the Balkans for Stabilization Force 13.

Fort Riley plans to complete the initial issuance of cards in the

fall of next year Fiedler said.

### Much preparation goes into post holiday meals

While many soldiers go home to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with their families, many will stay on Fort Riley. These soldiers do not have to miss out on the traditional Thanksgiving food, though.

The Main Post Dining Facility will serve Thanksgiving dinner tomorrow, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., and soldiers are welcome to bring their families and guests.

### Bulldogs tested by opposing forces

The 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, kicked-off the second phase of their three-part Gauntlet training exercise Nov. 18 in preparation for their upcoming deployment to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

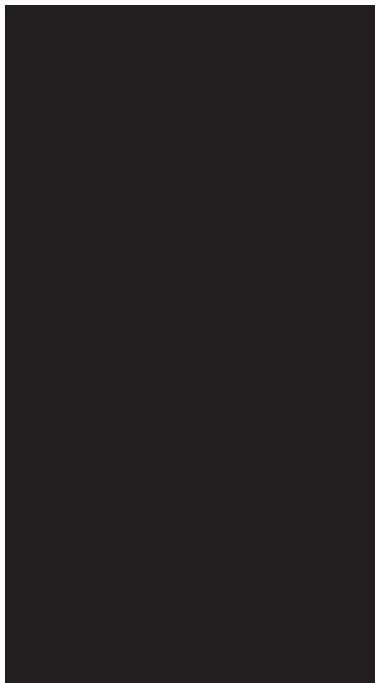
Units from the brigade conducted training missions against an opposition force, which was made up of units from 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

Continued on Page 12



Post/Bender

Peter Paras, Jr. swings across a water obstacle to get his secret message to the command tent at the end of the obstacle course. Participants first entered a briefing tent, where they could have their faces painted with cammo paint.

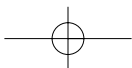
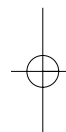
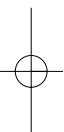


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Page 12

Fort Riley Post

January 3, 2002

## Continued from Page 10 Brigade prepared, ready to fight at NTC

The culmination of 3rd Brigade Combat Team's company level training exercises, Gauntlet force on force, Brigade Battle Simulation exercise and gunnery exercises, began Tuesday with the third phase of Gauntlet.

That third phase, the Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise, gives the 3rd BCT an opportunity for the combined arms team to synchronize fires and operations. This will enable them to deliver a decisive blow against the enemy, said Capt. Brian Vogt, assistant operations officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd BCT.

"Our BCT has been training very hard over the past several months in preparation for the NTC rotation," Vogt said.

Vogt added, "It is very evident that the time the soldiers have spent in the field, away from their family and friends, has made this BCT a much better fighting force."

"The soldiers of 3rd BCT will give the OPFOR a fight for their life," Vogt concluded.

## Bell receives fourth star, leaves Fort Hood for Europe

Lt. Gen. B. B. Bell relinquished command of the III Armored Corps to Maj. Gen. Robert Wilson, commander of the 7th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colo., at a ceremony Nov. 26 at Abrams Physical Fitness Center. Wilson will command III Corps until a replacement for Bell arrives.

### December

## Authorization Act means big pay increase

The National Defense Authorization Act for 2003 funds the military portion of the global war on terror and the continuing transformation of the U.S. military to face the threats of the 21st century.

President Bush signed the bill into law Dec. 2 during a ceremony at the Pentagon. The act actually allows DoD to spend money released under the 2003 National Defense Appropriations Act, which Bush signed Oct. 23.

Under the two bills, service members will receive at least a 4.1 percent pay raise beginning Jan. 1, 2003. Many mid-level NCOs and officers will receive a pay jump of between 5.5 percent to 6.5 percent.

## MPs return from Guan- tanamo Bay

The 346th Military Police Company returned from a deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Dec. 4.

The deployment was a trying and emotional experience for some Reservists, although for different reasons. "My wife had a baby while I was gone," said Cpl. Brian Brigrman. "I did get to come home for 10 days, but leaving again was very emotional."

Sgt. 1st Class Dena Goble said she is anxious to see family and friends. "It will be nice to get back into the old routines," she said.

"We came at a transitional time," said Goble. "It could be very difficult because the rules changed often. We just had to check our emotions at the gate and do our jobs," she added.

Soldiers worked, on average, a 10-hour day, Goble said. "There were three different shifts, and there were also the standard details that had to be worked as well," she said.

## Metz nominated for promotion, III Corps command

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced Dec. 16 that the President of the United States has nominated Maj. Gen. Thomas

"Hopefully we can take first place. If we do, we can take the Commander's Cup," said Coulson.

## Housing allowance rates will increase

The Department of Defense

ordinary Personal Action from the American Red Cross in a ceremony in Manhattan last month. Hinkley used her Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation training earlier this year when 2-year-old Justin Martis started coughing and choking on a small piece of pancake at breakfast.

Chap. (Col.) Dan Paul, installation chaplain. Children were invited to sit on blankets at the front of the field.

Random Acts of Kindness Awards were presented at the ceremony to various members of the Fort Riley and surrounding communities.

## Children receive special gifts at celebration

The Exceptional Family Members Program held a holiday celebration at Riley's Dec. 10, for the families enrolled in the program. The participants mingled, ate and received presents for the children that were donated by Operation Santa Claus.

"Operation Santa Claus is always very supportive of the EFMP Holiday Celebration. Each year they make sure each child attending receives a gift," said Laurie McCauley, EFMP manager.

## Prairie Christmas celebration held

The Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley held a Prairie Christmas Sunday that featured a guest speaker and a musician. The theme for the celebration was how Christmas was celebrated during the early to mid 1800s.

The speaker, Marla Matkin, gave a historical lesson to the audience while portraying Brevet Maj. Gen. George A. Custer's wife, Libby.



Post/Visions

Hayley and Cody welcome their dad, Staff Sgt. Michael Lawson, home after a five-and-a-half month deployment to Washington, D.C. Lawson is also greeted by his wife, Shanna.

F. Metz for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general. The North Carolina native has also been nominated to fill the assignment as commanding general, III Corps and Fort Hood, Fort Hood, Texas.

Metz has served at Fort Riley since November 2001 as the commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley and as of October 2002, he has served on temporary duty as the chief of staff for the U.S. Central Command based out of Tampa, Fla.

## Competition tense during Fort Riley Powerlifting Meet

Competition in the Fort Riley Powerlifting Meet was tense enough Dec. 6, but the fact that the 2002 Men's Commander's Cup could have been riding on it made it even more stressful for participants.

At the beginning of the meet the 924th Military Police Battalion team captain, Matthew Coulson, was optimistic.

has released the 2003 Basic Allowance for Housing rates, continuing the Department's initiative of reducing military members' out-of-pocket housing costs.

In total, the planned increase in housing allowance funds for Fiscal 2003 is about \$800 million above the Fiscal 2002 amount.

The 2003 rates represent the third phase of the planned buy down in out-of-pocket housing expenses. Other components of the increase are geographic rate protection and housing cost inflation.

For members with dependents, average increases in BAH range from one to 27 percent by grade with the typical increase in the range of eight percent.

## Child care worker awarded after saving boy using CPR training

A caregiver at the Child Development Center was recognized recently for saving a choking child from serious injury. Lori Hinkley received the Certificate of Recognition for Extra-

## Annual Toy March provides over 500 toys to Operation Santa Claus

Over 500 unwrapped toys made their way to Operation Santa Claus headquarters safely tucked in the rucksacks of soldiers from the 70th Engineer Battalion during the annual Toy March, Dec. 13.

This was the eighth year the battalion has conducted the Toy March.

## Santa attends annual holiday tree lighting

Fort Riley kicked off the holiday season with the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony held Dec. 6, at Ware Parade Field.

The ceremony began with a welcome and an invocation by

## Normandy Theater

### Tonight:

7 p.m.  
Friday After Next (R)

### Saturday:

7 p.m.  
Harry Potter -  
The Chamber of Secrets  
(PG)

### Sunday:

7 p.m.  
Half Past Dead  
(PG-13)

### Thursday:

7 p.m.  
Friday After Next (R)

### Dec. 10:

7 p.m.  
Harry Potter -  
The Chamber of Secrets  
(PG)

Ticket prices:  
Adults - \$3  
Children - \$1.50

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